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Mercury&Citizen

Thursday, January 28, 2010 FREE EVERY WEEK

The past week in Northampton Chronicle & Echo headlines

A concert featuring the Royal Marines Band will be held in Northampton to help pay for medical treatment for a tot with cerebral palsy

Shops are reporting queues of people trying to buy a new five inch model of Northampton-born Doctor Who star Matt Smith

A father whose daughter survived heart surgery is planning to run the London Marathon in aid of the hospital that saved her life

Potholes galore in suburban street

A ROAD in Duston has been described as "the worst in Northampton" by a resident who claims it has more than 100 potholes.

Kim Chapelow, who lives in Southfield Road, believes her street has more cracks and holes than any other in the town.

She said: "I know we are not the only road that has suffered but this has got to be the worst. It is really awful.

"It is dangerous because you drive down the road and focus solely on the potholes rather than the road. You see people weaving in and out on the road.

"I crawl along in second gear so that if someone pulls over I have a better chance of stopping. In my mind it is the worst road I have ever encountered, anywhere."

Mrs Chapelow said the road first began deteriorating after a period of snowy weather in 2001 but has become noticeably worse in recent weeks as a result of the cold snap.

She said she contacted Northamptonshire County Council and workers had come out and filled in three of the potholes but she had been told "no action would be taken" on the rest.

Mrs Chapelow said: "It makes you wonder what you pay your council taxes for.

"When it is pitch black it is even worse. It is getting beyond a joke and something really needs to be done about this road."

A spokesman for Northamptonshire County Council said Southfield Road had been put forward for a scheme assessment where it would be considered against other proposals to compete for the budget that is available for re-surfacing work.

He added: "Southfield Road is comprised of a concrete base, which is covered by a Tarmac surface. The road is regularly inspected and any defects which are of a size deemed to be unsafe are repaired.

Last week, the authority revealed that during the first 10 working days of the year it had received up to 200 calls a day from residents concerned about the state of Northamptonshire's roads. In comparison, the council received less than 1,000 calls in the same period of 2009.

■ Do you know of a road in the town that has more potholes? Call reporter Callum Jones on Northampton 467038 or email a picture to callum.jones@northantsnews.co.uk

Southfield Road in Duston is covered in potholes, many of which have appeared since the big freeze

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Finlay full of fun

A MUM from Northampton is counting the days until her young son can be given the all-clear from cancer of the throat, chest and kidneys.

Six-year-old Finlay Ward featured in the *Chronicle & Echo* a year ago after being given a Cancer Research UK Little Star Award in recognition of his battle against non-Hodgkins lymphoma, which he was diagnosed with the previous October.

Having not seen a recurrence of the tumours in over a year since his chemotherapy, doctors now say he has just eight months left until being given the official all clear.

Mum Gail Trusswell, aged 41, from Kettering Road, Northampton, said: "We tick off every hospital appointment as it goes by and we are so relieved when the letter comes saying nothing new has been found.

"If he's been clear for two full years then they normally say that it's unlikely the lymphoma will come back again.

"We are just concentrating now on him staying healthy but we are getting closer and closer."

Cedar Road Primary School pupil Finlay has bravely fought the disease, which attacks the lymphatic system, since July 2008 when, after having an operation at Northampton General Hospital to remove his tonsils, doctors found cancer tissue in his throat and chest and a further scan showed tumours on his kidneys.

His hair fell out and he was plagued with painful mouth ulcers but when his treatment finished in October a further scan showed he was in remission.

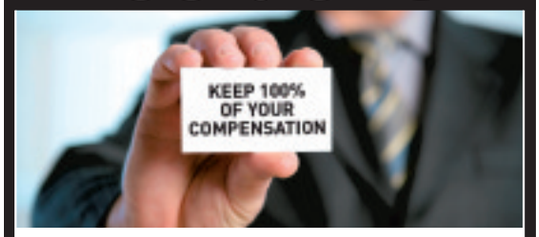
Gail said Finlay has had a good and healthy year and is now back at school.

She said: "He's really full of energy now – to the point I almost wish his batteries would run out some days.

"We been back to the children's ward and it was lovely to hear the nurses say how much he and grown and remark on how they could finally see him with all his hair.

Finlay Ward is heading for the all-clear from cancer

Accident?



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Petition plea for pitch lights

Councillor Keith Davies (left) receives the petition from youngsters Jake Wan, Alan Bull, Chris Smith, and MP Sally Keeble

TEENAGERS from an estate in Northampton have called for floodlights to be built on a sports pitch so they can play football after dark.

Youngsters from the Southfields estate have complained they cannot play in the evenings during the winter as there are no lights on their pitch.

They said if Northampton Borough Council was to invest in lights, as well as new fences to improve the facility, it would be used by the "entire community" and keep youngsters off the streets.

Alan Bull, aged 17, said: "Because it is winter it is completely dark up there at about 4.30pm and we can't play because we need some lights at night."

Youngsters from the estate set up a graffiti board petition, which they left in a shop on the estate and it was completed in just one night.

They have now enlisted the help of MP for Northampton North, Sally Keeble, and they handed over their petition to Councillor Keith Davies outside the Guildhall on Saturday.

Jake Wan, aged 15, said: "It would help the entire community because almost everyone plays football.

"At this time of year it is 4pm, maybe 4.30pm, when it goes dark and we can't play, whereas in the summer we play until about 10pm.

"The other day we had about 30 people playing football and I think, if there were some lights, more people would be able to play football and there would be fewer kids hanging around the shops."

Mrs Keeble said: "Everyone moans about young people hanging around at night but they have to have something to do and I am more than happy to help them."

Tribute to news 'legend'

A GROUP formed on the popular social networking website Facebook has attracted more than 300 fans over the weekend to celebrate the work of *Chron* 'legend', Brian Howard (pictured).

The unmistakable sound of "Chron-i-cle" bellowing over Abington Street is something thousands of people have become used to as they walk along Northampton's main shopping thoroughfare.

And today, the man behind the voice, 52-year-old Brian, has really come of age, having notched up 18 years selling newspapers the traditional way from his town centre pitch. In 1992, Brian was made redundant from Harlestone Firs sawmill in Northampton. Since then he has become 'part of the furniture' in Abington Street, where he sells the *Chron* six days a week.

Brian, who lives in Long Buckby, was shocked when he heard a group had been set up in his name. He said: "Somebody told me I was on Facebook, so I went around to my neighbour's house to have a look. I was very surprised and I wasn't happy at the time, but I can see the funny side now. But I am not a legend, I am just doing my job. People have set up the group because of what I am doing and who I am. I am a big character." Brian says he is of particular help to blind people, assisting them in knowing where they are in the town.

Creator of the Facebook page, student Karl Senghore, aged 18, of Goldings, Northampton, said: "I remember the sound 'Chron-i-cle' from my childhood. The bloke is a legend – he's been there every day for years."

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Coldstream Guards walked briskly through Northampton town centre as part of a trek to raise money for the Army Benevolent Fund

Town stop on long trek

SOLDIERS who marched through Northampton this weekend have thanked the public who turned out to support them, and apologised to those who may have missed the event after the regiment arrived earlier than planned.

The group of about 100 Coldstream Guards initially intended to go into town at about 4pm on Saturday along Welford Road and through Kingsthorpe along the A508.

After getting slightly ahead of schedule during the 425-mile trek from Scotland to London, they arrived on the edge of the town at about 2.30pm.

Organiser Capt Mark Hayhurst said: "We had a fantastic reception from everyone who turned out, so we are really grateful for that.

"Unfortunately because of some confusion over the route, we may have missed some people by about 500 yards and we did arrive early, so we do apologise for that."

The Guards are completing the mission to raise support for troops in Afghanistan.

They are recreating a trek initially made by General George Monck, who led an army on the same route during the English Civil War 350 years ago.

They are due to arrive at the Tower of London this weekend.

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A trolley bad show says store

A SUPERMARKET in Northampton has appealed to town centre shoppers to keep their hands off their trolleys after more than 100 have been taken from its store by customers.

The Grosvenor Centre branch of supermarket giant Sainsbury's has been forced to display a notice explaining to shoppers they have a severe shortage of trolleys and there may not be enough available to use for their weekly shop.

The store has ordered more but has been left hamstrung by customers who are happy to pay the deposit of a pound then neglect to return it.

Manager Karl Cunningham said the company had no idea where the trolleys were going but speculated that the metal could be valuable, with each individual trolley worth up to £70.

He said: "We don't really know why they aren't being brought back because anyone who uses one does have to leave a deposit.

"However, you have some poundage there with one of those trolleys so I don't know whether they could even be going for scrap metal."

Sainsbury's is now pleading with shoppers to alert the store if they notice one of its trolleys outside of the Grosvenor Centre.

Anyone who spots one is asked to call Northampton 239900.

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Harriet's star role

SINGING star Harriet Poole is preparing for her shot at the big time after landing a place in 'The Nation's Band' – a mixed pop group chosen by music fans across the country.

The 22-year-old, from Little Billing, Northampton, was ecstatic when she got the phone call saying she had made it into the band.

Last week the *Chronicle & Echo* got behind the hopeful in an attempt to get people voting for her in the competition, set up to create a new, mixed pop group chosen by the public via online video-sharing website You Tube.

Harriet spent several days nervously awaiting the results of the public vote and said: "To be honest I haven't been sleeping very well, it has been so nerve-wracking. I have received so much support from my family and friends and friends of friends, it is really heart-warming.

"People have found me and voted for me because they saw me in the *Chronicle & Echo*."

Harriet was at a friend's house in Surrey when she heard the news she had made the band. The band is called Fleur, which is her middle name.

She said: "The next week will be all go so I have just been doing my fake tan and getting my nails done, and getting ready for the weeks ahead.

"We will all be recording, and doing lots of choreography, before going off to live in a house together.

"I will throw myself into this."

Harriet Poole

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(10.30am, 12.40, 2.50 Sa-Su only), 5.15
BROTHERS 15
(11.30am except Sa-Su)
BOOK OF ELI 15
9.20
UP IN THE AIR 15
NOMINATED FOR 6 BAFTA AWARDS
12.30, (3.30 except Su), 6.20, (9.10 except M)
IT'S COMPLICATED 15
BAFTA AWARD NOMINATED
(11.00am, 1.50 except Sa-Su), 5.00, 8.10
(AD) Audio Description all showtimes
(S) Subtitled Performances (1.50 M only), (5.00 Th only)
THE ROAD 15
BAFTA AWARD NOMINATED
(2.10 except Sa-Su), 5.20, 8.00
SHERLOCK HOLMES 12A Contains moderate violence
(12.00 except M), 3.00, 6.00, 9.00
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS 2: THE SQUEAKQUEL U
11.20am, (12.10 Sa-Su only), 1.40, (2.30 Sa-Su only), 4.10, 6.30
AVATAR 3D 12A Contains moderate violence, threat and language
NOMINATED FOR 8 BAFTA AWARDS
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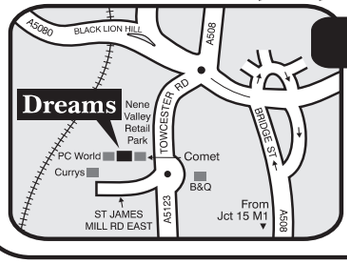

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Hope of boost for centre

■ The former Woolwich premises owned by Ablethird, which has now gone into administration. Councillors hope the development will mean a wider variety of shops will be able to come into the town

TOWN chiefs have welcomed news a number of neglected shops in the centre of Northampton could soon be brought back into permanent use.

Over the past few years, Watford-based amusement arcade firm, Ablethird, has built up a portfolio of properties in Abington Street.

Alongside the two Agora arcades the firm has in the street, it also has a number of other properties which have stood almost permanently empty since plans to turn them into arcades were refused.

But following news Ablethird has gone into administration, it has been announced the firm's empty buildings will now either be put on the market or rented out.

Graham Bushby from administrators Baker Tilly, said: "We've put the business up for sale and we've had quite a few interested parties, about 20 in total. We're also looking to get tenants for empty properties and, in due course, we might look for buyers for them."

Among the empty shops owned by Ablethird is the former Woolwich Building Society at the entrance to the Grosvenor Centre.

The firm applied to turn the building into an arcade just three months ago, but councillors opposed the plans, which were put together after Ablethird bought the site at auction.

Since the plans were refused by the West Northamptonshire Development Corporation (WNDC) in November, the building has stood empty.

The possibility some of the empty shops in Abington Street could now have new occupants has been welcomed at Guildhall.

Northampton Borough Council's opposition leader, Councillor David Palethorpe (*Con, Billing*) said: "These empty shops becoming available will hopefully help attract more of the niche retailers that will make Northampton a unique shopping destination, rather than just a carbon copy of some of our neighbours."

Councillor Andrew Simpson (*Lib Dem, Kingsley*), said the council should be given powers to buy the properties.

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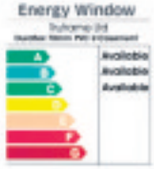

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A NEW super-speed helicopter has been unveiled by the Warwickshire and Northamptonshire Air Ambulance, having taken to the county's skies for its maiden flight.

The state-of-the-art aircraft is believed to be the fastest civilian helicopter on the market and replaces the charity's seven-year-old model.

It was officially unveiled this

week at Althorp House, in Northamptonshire, before embarking on its first day's work.

The new air ambulance, which is leased by the charity and is not a one-off capital cost, is capable of top speeds of almost 200mph and will mean patients will get to hospital quicker than ever.

Andy Williamson, chief executive of the WNAA, said the helicopter would also help crews deliver better, safer care to victims of serious accidents.

He said: "It is the fastest civilian helicopter that you can buy and it can take off in under one minute.

"It has more up-to-date equipment so we are very excited to have it."

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BRIGHT
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IT'S A GIRL

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21 ALREADY!!!

Russ AITKEN

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Acknowledgements

YOUNG — Bert. Shirley and family would like to thank all those who attended the funeral of the late Bert for all their many cards and beautiful floral tributes sent. Thank you to Hollowell & Son and the Reverend M Hills, and a special thank you to our Son-in-Law Jon Warren, love Shirley, Kim and Sindy.

In Memoriam

CONNOR JAKE ALLEN

26.08.93 - 21.01.07

Taken away from us so young.
Such a loss to our family
We're so proud of you
Missed every minute of every day.

Love always
Mum, Callum, Kelsey, Keziah and Libby.
X

BARKER Tina

In loving memory of a wonderful Daughter and Sister. They say time heals but that is not how it feels. You left us far to early, before your time it seems, and now you will never have the chance to forfill all those dreams. We love and miss you so much Mum & your Sister Sonia xxxx Teanna & Rhys xxxx

BLOWS
Harry
Treasured memories of my dear Dad who passed away 29th January 1980. Time can never take away, The love you gave me day by day. Memories are keepsakes, Wonderful and true, Of happy hours I spent with you. You shared my joys, Laughter and fears. Thank you Dad for those precious years. Missing you. Love Carol x x x

TO PLACE YOUR FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS CALL 01604 515000

In Memoriam

BROWN
Derek
Passed away 27th January 2000. Loving Husband and Dad . In our hearts and thoughts always. Love Rose, Andrew, Tracey. xxx

BYRNE
Margaret

Taken from us on 27th Jan 2009
There's a face that's always with us,
A voice we would love to hear,
A smile we will always remember
Of our mother we loved so dear.
Love from all your family

CROWSON Mary
Passed away January 27th 2005. Love says little but means so much Love is a feeling, a look, a touch Love is a gift we gave to each other and we'll treasure your love Mary for ever and ever Still so lost without you Your ever loving Husband Geoff. Much loved Mother of Colin, Sue and Sean. God Bless Mary xxxx

HARILAOU
Andrew
24-01-2007.
They say there is a reason, They say that time will heal But neither time nor reason will change the way we feel. For no-one knows the heartache that lies behind our smiles, No-one knows how many times we have broken down and cried. We want to tell you something So there wont be any doubt Your so wonderful to think of but so hard to be without. Love Hilary, Jason, Hazel, Neave x x x x

HARILAOU
Andrew
24.01.07

An understanding heart, An intelligent mind, We miss you Dad, You were one of a kind.

With love always Mario, Sally & Grandchildren x x x

In Memoriam

LOMAS Vera
26th January 2007

"The passing years"

Time has passed, we miss you still We know in our hearts we always will The memories will always stay No passing years will take them away

From your ever loving family

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SLINN
Christine
25/1/2009

Dear Mum, Dear Grandma.

We are so sad that you are not with us anymore and words cant convey just how much we miss you. Our memories of you are treasured every day and they inspire us to live our lives in the possitive and happy way you always did.

Always loved forever
From
Phil, Vanda, Mollie, Max and Kazia x

SLINN
Christine

Taken from us 25th January 2009

My Sister my Friend, They say time heals but thats not true, I will miss you forever, I think of you every day remebering all our good times God bless. Love Diane and Roger

SMITH
Donald
28th January 1973.
A beloved Husband and Father.
Death leaves a heartache, That no one can heal, And love leaves a memory That no one can steal. Rest in peace Don. From Sally, Jacquie, Keith and Anita x x x x

SPENCER Terry
23/01/2009
Dearest Husband of Chrissie, loving Dad to Kym, Terri & Glyn and Pap to Mac & Molly. Love and miss you so much xx

In Memoriam

MOORE Norman

29th January 2008

You left a void no one call fill 2 years have passed and I miss you still

Love Jean

SLINN
Christine
25/1/2009

Wife of Alan, Mother of Gareth and Partner Nicky. Taken suddenly before we could say good bye. Deeply missed and loved and think of you every day, forever in our memories x x x

TALBOT — Brian. 28-01-2007. Dearly loved Husband of Jean X Remembered always.

WILLS
Robert
A very special Husband.

Time will never take away our happy years together, your love remains, the memories stay, a bond that time cant sever.

"Always" Rita.

WOOD
John
29.01.09.
You always had a smile to share, Time to give and time to care. A loving nature kind and true, This is the way we will always remember you. Love forever, Betty and all the family

Birthday Memories

WARD — Happy Birthday Memories of Andrew who would have been 50 today. A Great Brother, a lovely Son. I'm so proud and glad I was his Mum x x

YATES
Mark
Wonderful Memories on your 41st Birthday. Great Son, Brother & Uncle. In our hearts. Love & Kisses, Mum & Dad, Julieanne, Tom, James & Emily.

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NORTHAMPTON LICENSING AUTHORITY
LICENSING ACT 2003 PUBLIC NOTICE

St Giles Parochial Church Council is applying for the new grant of a Premises Licence for St Giles Church Centre, St Giles Terrace, Northampton NN1 2BN. If granted the application will allow the following licensable activities to take place:

provision of regulated entertainment and provision of facilities for regulated entertainment

Any person wishing to make representations in relation to this application may do so by writing to: Phil Bayliss, Licensing Officer, Northampton Borough Council, The Guildhall, St Giles Square, Northampton NN1 1DE

Tel: 01604 838545

Fax: 01604 838723

Email: licensing@northampton.gov.uk

Representations may be made for 28 consecutive days from the date of this notice. The last date for representations being 13/02/2010

A copy of the application is kept by the Licensing Authority at the above address and can be viewed Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 5.00pm and 9.00am to 4.30pm on Fridays, except Bank Holidays.

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Renault Clio 1.2 Expression 01 51 reg 1 prev owner 85,000 miles FSH air con sunroof PAS ABS e/w RCL metallic blue only £2295

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Astra, 1.3 TDCi Diesel estate club 5 door 2007 07 reg, 1 owner, FSH, 79,000 miles, air con, cd, alloys, pas, abs, met blue £5295

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Mini Cooper, 1.6, 2002, 51 reg, only 30,000 miles, FBMWSH, air con, alloys, cd, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l e/m full leather Chilli red. £5995

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Thursday, January 28, 2010

In the comfort zone

WITH small cars focusing ever more intently on fuel economy, the 1.6-litre VTi petrol engine in Citroen's C3 looks a little incongruous.

Especially in a small car that wouldn't count sportiness as one of its key strengths. It's a smooth, free-revving unit in a car that excels in areas of comfort, practicality and manoeuvrability. However, most buyers will find a diesel engine preferable.

As a supermini built for comfort rather than speed, Citroen's C3 isn't exactly crying out for a powerful engine that would let it stretch its legs. The 120bhp 1.6-litre VTi petrol unit is as hot as it gets in the current line-up and probably as hot as you'd want in this kind of model. The question is whether even this unassuming engine smacks of overkill in a car that's best at its most affordable and unhurried.

Today's faster superminis routinely have more than 150bhp and it's no shock when the real hot hatchback head-bangers arrive with something closer to 200bhp. The 120bhp 1.6 VTi engine might be the Citroen C3's most powerful but it doesn't turn the car into an object of desire for track-suited teenagers. The 8.9s 0-60mph sprint time is brisk but the engine's strength is its smoothness.

There's no huge reserve of brute force to be accessed at any point in the rev range with maximum torque of 160Nm produced at 4,250rpm. The C3's standard five speed manual gearbox isn't the slickest and a main reason why the 1.6-litre engine will be considered is its availability with a four-speed automatic.

As the C3's range-topping petrol engine, the 1.6 VTi comes exclusively in Exclusive trim. That means a skip-load of extra features have been fitted including a generous amount of chrome detailing to brighten-up the exterior. There are also 16" alloy wheels, digital air-conditioning and one-touch electric windows. On the safety side, ESP is only optional which is a tad disappointing, but front, side and curtain airbags find their way inside.

Exclusive customers also get the huge elongated Zenith windscreen that extends in an unbroken sweep right back over the driver's head and allows loads of light in to the car. It gives the C3 cabin an unusual feel but on sunny days most owners will have to pull the shade forward as the tinted top section lets too much light through in all but the dimmest conditions. The 1.6-litre VTi engine is only £500 more than the 95bhp 1.4 VTi petrol. This sounds like a worthwhile deal but the prospect of the more satisfying 1.6-litre HDi diesel for only another £600 is similarly tempting. The C3 model range seems ideally compiled for the salesman's favourite pastime of shuffling customers into more expensive models.

The C3's 1.6-litre normally-aspirated petrol engine does look a little unwieldy in context of a supermini market that is turning to smaller, often turbocharged, engines in a quest for greater efficiency. The 47.9mpg combined cycle economy it returns isn't bad for a 120bhp petrol engine.

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Renault Clio 1.2 Expression 01 51 reg 1 prev owner 85,000 miles FSH air con sunroof PAS ABS e/w RCL metallic blue only £2295

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Astra, 1.3 TDCi Diesel estate club 5 door 2007 07 reg, 1 owner, FSH, 79,000 miles, air con, cd, alloys, pas, abs, met blue £5295

Renault Megane CC 1.6 Dynamique Cabriolet, 2005, 54 reg, FSH, 63,000 miles, air con, alloys, cd, pas, abs, metallic silver. Only £5495

Mini One 1.6 2003 03 reg only 67,000 miles FSH, 2 lady owners, pas, abs, cd, e/w, r/c/l, chilli red. £5795

Mini Cooper, 1.6 Automatic 2002, 52 reg 1 owner FBMWSH only 66,000 miles air con Pepper pack metallic green superb £5995

Mini Cooper, 1.6, 2002, 51 reg, only 30,000 miles, FBMWSH, air con, alloys, cd, pas, abs, e/w, r/c/l e/m full leather Chilli red. £5995

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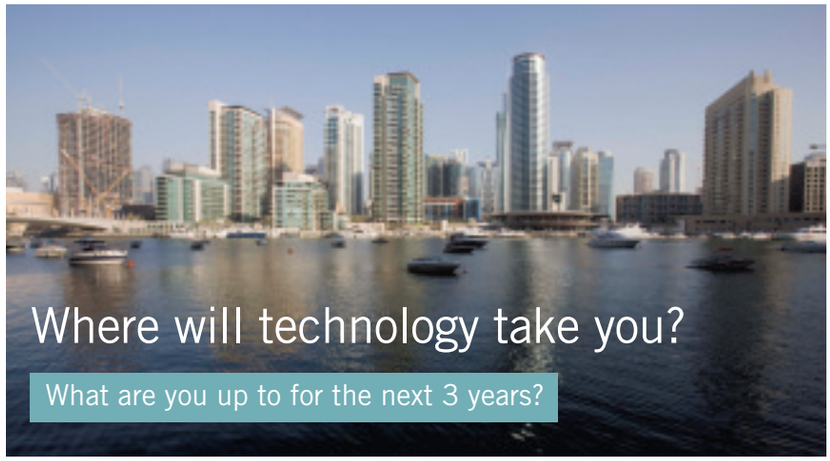

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Duties will involve assessing, planning and evaluating care for Dementia Nursing, incorporating physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs.

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Care Assistants | £6.60 per hour

Full/Part Time/Bank Days/Nights

To carry out care and support as directed by the Nurse in Charge for Dementia Nursing. To assist and support Service Users towards a quality lifestyle involving understanding the ethos of Dementia. Knowledge of SOVA / DOLS / MCA would be an advantage. Dementia training e.g. Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow would be an advantage. NVQ2 would be an advantage, but training will be given.

Activity Organiser | £6.75 per hour

Full Time Days/Evenings/Weekend

Previous experience organizing and co-ordinating appropriate focused activities for people with Dementia including external activities within the Community is preferred. Flexibility of shifts is essential.

NVQ2 or equivalent relating to appropriate Activities for Dementia Nursing would be an advantage.

Knowledge of the National Dementia Strategy and Stirling University Ethos regarding Dementia would be an advantage for all posts.

Please contact Deirdre Cunningham on
01933 413646
or **07968 512064**

Closing date: **12 February 2010**

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON

MEMBERSHIP OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Governing Council is the body responsible for determining the educational character and mission of the University and for overseeing its activities.

The majority of its 25 members are external to the University and bring their skills, knowledge and experience to the Council, and its committees, working with the management of the University to contribute to continuing success and development of higher education in Northamptonshire.

The University's Nominations Committee is engaged in the process of identifying individuals who might fill future vacancies in membership of the Council. The Committee seeks to achieve a balanced membership in respect of age, gender and ethnicity and would be pleased to receive expressions of interest from those who believe they can contribute to the governance of the University.

On this occasion the Committee would be particularly interested in hearing from individuals who have a background in strategic management, finance, accountancy, construction and the legal sector. Expressions of interest from past students of the University and its antecedent institutions, with relevant experience, would also be welcomed. Appointments are for an initial term of three years and do not include remuneration although certain expenses will be met by the University.

Further information about the University, the Council, and the role and expectations of Governors, is available from Nick Allen, Deputy Clerk, The University of Northampton, Boughton Green Road, Northampton, NN2 7AL. Telephone 01604 892320.

The closing date for expressions of interest in membership of the Governing Council will be **Friday 12 February 2010**.

Candidates invited to attend the University would meet with members of the Nominations Committee on **Wednesday 5 May 2010** and those expressing an interest should indicate if they would be able to visit the University on this date.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHAMPTON

Directorate

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The Pro Vice Chancellor has an extensive range of commitments and requires a level of support that is professional, well-organised, proactive and smooth in operation.

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Cobblers now unbeaten in eight!

Sport

Northampton Town entertain Burton at Sixfields on Saturday, hoping to extend their unbeaten run to nine games. The Cobblers went to Darlington on Tuesday night and goals from Billy McKay (pictured) and Ryan Gilligan sealed a 2-1 win.

Tiny's moving on

SAINTS' powerhouse Soane Tonga'uiha could be on the verge of leaving Franklin's Gardens.

The giant prop, nicknamed Tiny, is a favourite with Northampton fans but has been linked with a move to Saracens. It is understood the Tongan has been offered a big money move to Vicarage Road and looks set to end his four-year association with the Saints.

The news came as it was also revealed Neil Best is to move on and will join Worcester Warriors at the end of the season.

However, coming in the other direction will be Tom Wood, who will drive competition in the back-row up even higher next season, after Saints snatched the 23-year-old from Sixways.

Wood has been a revelation this season for Worcester, who will be gutted to lose one of their most promising talents.

The Coventry-born flanker announced his potential with a stunning performance in Saints' opening day win over Worcester and is part of the current England Saxons squad.

"Tom is an excellent player," said Mallinder. "He has plenty of Guinness Premiership and European experience, and because he is still a young man we believe he can improve and add to his game.

"The back row has been one of the most competitive areas of our squad over the past two years and having Tom here will mean that the standards will only go up. We are building a squad that we want to be competitive at the top end of the Guinness Premiership for several years and Tom will be a big part of that."

To date Wood has played 54 times for Worcester and scored four tries, three of which have come this season.

Wood learned his game at Barkers Butts RFC before being snapped up by Worcester's Academy, and his rugby education includes a spell in New Zealand playing for North Otago.

Standing at 6ft 4in and weighing in at 105kg, Wood is an imposing presence on the field and says he has moved to Franklin's Gardens to improve his game. "That's part of the reason why I want to come," he said. "That's the challenge, to improve my game. I'm naturally very competitive and believe I will fit into that environment."

The club has also been boosted by Bruce Reihana's decision to extend his contract at the club, finally quashing rumours the 33-year-old may be heading to France.

Saints travel to Edgeley Park to face Sale Sharks tomorrow evening, hoping to show the spirit that saw them seal a Heineken Cup quarter-final place last weekend. They travelled to Munster and despite long periods of pressure, lost 12-9, but that was enough to earn them a vital bonus point to qualify.

Soane Tonga'uiha

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